

# CARLSBAD In-VO-LVec

CARLSBAD COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS

OCTOBER 2012

#### **Volunteers Deliver**

**Crucial** 

Services

and Create

**Success** 

**Stories** 

for the

Community

## **Getting Things Done!**



"A trail is not merely a route from here to there. Volunteers who maintain our trails know them as a place to make new friends, learn new skills and build pride. The physical, mental and emotional recharging of the spirit that comes from this work lowers blood pressure, lifts spirits, keep us young, vital and it just feels darn good!"

> Liz Ketabian **Trail Program**



"Five days a week people can rely on being served a fully prepared, wellbalanced midday meal at the Carlsbad senior center. This communitybased service depends on volunteers to take reservations, set tables. do kitchen prep, serve

lunch and then clean it all up. To maintain the meal program alone, the taxpayers in the City of Carlsbad would have to employ staff to work an additional 13,848 hours annually."

> **Jack Risley Senior Center**



**Tonya Rodzach Cultural Arts Program** 

"For true success ask yourself these four questions: Why? Why not? Why not me? Why not now?" James Allen, New Zealand statesman

#### **Around Carlsbad**

#### **The Minor Home Repair Program**

Administered by the City of Carlsbad, the program provides loans of up to \$5,000 to homeowners of single-family dwelling units with the following goals:

- Maintain safe homes and attractive neighborhoods
- Preserve and improve the quality of the housing stock
- Assist seniors to age in place or the disabled to remain in their home
- Enhance the security of the home through the awarding of loans

These loans are available to low income households who own and occupy their home as their primary residence. All Minor Home Repair Program loans are zero percent interest deferred payment loans. Contact the City of Carlsbad Housing and Neighborhood Services department for details.

#### Ann D. L'Heureux Dog Park



Carlsbad's original dog park, located at 2700 Carlsbad Village Drive, provides 13,200

square feet of fenced area for dogs to play and exercise. Relax under the eucalyptus trees while meeting new friends and neighbors.

The park features:

- Benches
- Dog drinking fountain
- Plastic bag dispensers and receptacles for cleanup
- Dedicated parking lot
- Trail connection to Hidden Canyon Park

## **Soaring Toward Success through Literacy**



Carlsbad Library Learning Center 3368 Eureka Place

3368 Eureka Place Carlsbad, CA 92008

There is currently a backlog of learners waiting for tutors, especially those willing to tutor in the evening.

To learn more about the literacy program, call 760-931-4510 or email *literacy@carlsbadca.gov.* 

For most of his 39 years, Jamie Becker suffered in silence, not knowing why he misread words, had poor comprehension, had trouble writing legibly, or why he felt fatigued after reading just a few paragraphs.

Then, about 6 months ago, Jamie paid a visit to the Carlsbad City Library. He inquired about how to find books that would help him read and write better. "I was tired of faking my way through life," Jamie reflected. The librarian recommended he go to the Carlsbad Library Learning Center.

After a three-month wait for a tutor, Jamie was paired with an individual volunteer tutor. Steve Pettersen, a life coach by profession with no previous tutoring experience, received training in how to work with an adult with reading difficulties. Jamie and Steve meet twice a week for 1 ½-hour sessions. Working with Learning Center staff, Jamie learned that he has Irlen Syndrome, a problem with the brain's ability to process visual information. They use workbooks and materials, including

colored overlays provided by the Learning Center that specifically address Jamie's learning needs.

In the months since working with his "awesome" tutor, Jamie has passed his first college class and has made remarkable progress in his reading, writing and speaking. He recently graduated from the Adult Learner Leadership Institute, a program where adult learners learn leadership, self-esteem, and public speaking skills. "I think I am much more confident now. I know I am," Jamie declared. At work his boss has noticed a marked improvement in his written nightly logs. Jamie is studying to eventually become a Registered Nurse – and, just for fun, he plans to read all 14 books in *The Wheel of Time* series.

### VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES Senior Center Meal Prep

The more help we get, the more fresh salads and fruits can be prepped for the midday meals at the senior center. Help staff create nutritious meals for seniors from 9:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. weekdays at the senior center located at 799 Pine Avenue. For more information, contact Sue at Sue.Irey@carlsbadca.gov or 760-434-2929.

This issue of in • VOLved written by volunteer Kim Austin.



Volunteer Resources www.VolunteerinCarlsbad.net

To expand your volunteer involvement citywide, contact Sue Irey, Volunteer Coordinator Sue.Irey@Carlsbadca.gov or 760-434-2929